

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A paintable gypsum board, comprising:
 - a. a gypsum layer having a first face and a second face and comprising set gypsum; and
 - b. first and second facers affixed to said first and second faces, said first facer being a fibrous mat having a surface texture and comprising a non-woven, glass fiber web bonded together with a resinous binder, and said glass fibers consisting essentially of chopped glass fibers having an average fiber diameter ranging from about 9.5 to 12.5 μm and an average fiber length ranging from about 6 to 12 mm; andwherein said first facer provides said first face of said gypsum board with a smoothness that is sufficient to permit said gypsum board to be directly paintable, such that said surface texture does not remain perceptible after said first face is painted.
2. (previously presented) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said chopped glass fibers are composed of at least one member selected from the group

consisting of E glass, C glass, T glass, sodium borosilicate glass, and mixtures thereof.

3. (previously presented) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said chopped glass fibers are composed of E glass.
4. (previously presented) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein at least 90% by weight of said chopped glass fibers have a diameter ranging between 9.5 and 12.5 μm .
5. (previously presented) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein at least 95% by weight of said chopped glass fibers have a diameter ranging between 9.5 and 12.5 μm .
6. (previously presented) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein at least 97% by weight of said chopped glass fibers have a diameter ranging between 9.5 and 12.5 μm .
7. (cancelled)
8. (previously presented) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein at least a majority of said chopped glass fibers have a fiber length ranging from about 6 to 18 mm.
9. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said resinous binder is composed of at least one member selected from the group consisting of urea formaldehyde; conventional modified urea formaldehyde; acrylic resin; melamine resin; high nitrogen melamine resin; homopolymer and copolymer of polyacrylic

acid having a molecular weight of less than 10,000; crosslinking acrylic copolymer; crosslinked vinyl chloride acrylate copolymer; and modified acrylic latex binder.

10. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said resinous binder is composed of a modified acrylic latex binder.
11. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 9, wherein said resinous binder further comprises a cross-linker in an amount ranging up to about 10 weight percent.
12. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 11, wherein said cross linker is present in an amount ranging from about 2 to 5 weight percent.
13. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 11, wherein said resinous binder comprises melamine formaldehyde.
14. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said resinous binder has a glass transition temperature ranging from about 15 to 45°C.
15. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said resinous binder further comprises at least one water repellant agent.
16. (cancelled)
17. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said fibrous mat has a basis weight ranging from about 0.6 to 2.2 pounds per 100 square feet.
18. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 17, wherein said fibrous mat has a basis weight ranging from about 0.9 to 2.2 pounds per 100 square feet.

19. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 18, wherein said fibrous mat has a basis weight of about 1.25 ± 0.2 pounds per 100 square feet.
20. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, said second facer comprising kraft paper.
21. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, said second facer comprising a fibrous mat.
22. (previously presented) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, said second facer being a fibrous mat comprising a non-woven, glass fiber web bonded together with a resinous binder, and said glass fibers consisting essentially of chopped glass fibers having an average fiber diameter ranging from about 9.5 to 12.5 μm and an average fiber length ranging from about 6 to 12 mm.
23. (currently amended) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said gypsum ~~core~~layer further comprises at least one water repellant agent.
24. (currently amended) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said gypsum ~~core~~layer further comprises reinforcing fiber.
25. (currently amended) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, wherein said gypsum ~~core~~layer further comprises a biocide.
26. (original) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, said board having flame resistance sufficient to pass the test of ASTM Method E84, Class 1.
27. (currently amended) In a gypsum board having a first face and a second face and a non-woven fibrous mat affixed to at least one of said faces, the improvement

wherein said mat has a surface texture and comprises a glass fiber web bonded together with a resinous binder and said chopped glass fibers consist essentially of glass fibers having an average fiber diameter ranging from about 9.5 to 12.5 μm and an average fiber length ranging from about 6 to 12 mm, and mat provides said first face of said gypsum board with a smoothness that is sufficient to permit said gypsum board to be directly paintable, such that said surface texture does not remain perceptible after said first face is painted.

28. (cancelled)
29. (cancelled)
30. (cancelled)
31. (previously presented) A gypsum board as recited by claim 1, said mat having a permeability of at least 300 cfm/ft² measured by the Frazier test.
32. (currently amended) A paintable hydraulic set board, comprising:
 - a. a hydraulic set material layer having a first and a second face; and
 - b. first and second facers affixed to said first and second faces, at least of said first facer being a fibrous mat having a surface texture and comprising a non-woven, glass fiber web bonded together with a resinous binder, said glass fibers consisting essentially of chopped glass fibers having an average fiber diameter ranging from about 9.5 to 12.5 μm and an average fiber length ranging from about 6 to 12 mm; and

wherein said first facer provides said first face of said hydraulic set board with a smoothness that is sufficient to permit said hydraulic set board to be directly paintable, such that said surface texture does not remain perceptible after said first face is painted.